FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 JULY 1984

Gulf Conflict

Military Developments — The Iraqi Air Force "effectively and accurately" hit a "very large maritime target" near Khark Island on 19 July, according to a military spokesman cited by Baghdad Voice of the Masses Radio. Meanwhile, an Iranian military spokesman denied an Iraqi claim that Iran shelled two Iraqi cities, IRNA reported. One military communique cited by INA had reported that Iranian artillery shelled Tawilah on 15 July, while another military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio claimed that Shandri was shelled the following day.

In a separate development, Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi warned that if Iraq were to renew chemical attacks, Iran would "exploit every possible means" to deal a counter blow, IRNA reported. The counter blow would be "in keeping with the principles of our faith," Musavi added.

Diplomatic Developments — The ICO Good Offices Committee to end the Gulf conflict held a preliminary meeting in Jidda and elected Gambian President Dawda Jawara as its new chairman, SPA noted. Responding to the committee's moves, an Iranian envoy in Turkey cited by ANATOLIA said that Iran would soften its stand to end the war if the committee were to admit that Iraq is responsible for the war. If such a step is not taken, all initiatives to end the war will fail, the envoy added. Meanwhile, INA disclosed that Iraq has agreed to a Kuwaiti proposal to postpone for 2 days the third meeting of the Arab ministerial committee, which was to continue discussions on the Gulf conflict on 28 July.

Lebanon

Ship Seizure — The Israeli Navy recently intercepted a Lebanese ship which was involved in an attempt by Fatah to perpetrate a "mass terrorist attack" along Israel's coasts last month, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by ITIM. Israel's investigation has shown that the ship was hired to transport four Fatah "terrorists" from Tripoli to a point from which they transferred to a rubber dinghy to attack the Israeli coast. However, the attempt failed and the Fatah squad apparently returned to Tripoli, the spokesman added. The intercepted Lebanese vessel is in Israel and the interrogation of its eight-man crew is continuing, according to Jerusalem radio.

Israeli Liaison Office — Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran has ordered all Lebanese military personnel to withdraw from the military committee working at the Israeli liaison office at Ad-Dubiyyah, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. While the *JERUSALEM POST* said Israel is expecting Lebanon to order the closure of the liaison office, Israeli political sources cited by Jerusalem radio affirmed that Israel has no intention of closing it.

Relations With Iran — Beirut radio reported the Lebanese Cabinet's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Iran, a move which Tehran radio welcomed as a "positive step toward liberation from the domination of Zionism and imperialism."

Security — The Cabinet decided to authorize the Army to draft a security plan for the Ash-Shuf mountain area, Beirut radio reported. Meanwhile, a general strike was observed in Beirut and other areas to protest Israel's deportation of the Ja'farite mufti from Tyre, the radio noted. As for the situation in the north, Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon reported that Syrian troops completed their deployment in the Al-Kurah region while Al-Maradah and Syrian Social Nationalist Party militias exchanged kidnapped people at the local Syrian headquarters.

Kuwait-USSR

Before departing Moscow for London, Kuwait Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah confirmed that an agreement was initialled that provides for the supply of Soviet arms to Kuwait, KUNA reported. Shaykh Salim also described his talks with Soviet officials as "fruitful and positive," and pointed out that he is looking forward to seeing his Soviet counterpart Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov in Kuwait.

Syria-Jordan

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received the Jordanian parliamentary delegation that participated in the Arab Parliamentary meetings in Damascus, Damascus radio reported. The two sides discussed the situation and developments in the region and in the Arab arena. The head of the Jordanian delegation pointed out in a statement to PETRA cited by Amman radio that the discussions also included a review of Jordanian-Syrian relations and that the talks were "frank and clear."

PLO Affairs

A Democratic Alliance spokesman in Damascus said that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's remarks in Amman regarding his stand toward Cairo constitute a "violation" of the Aden agreement, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

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Clandestine Radio Details Incidents in Kabul

GF151248 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1715 GMT 14 Jul 84

[Text] Reports received from Kabul indicated that Abdol Latif, the revenue minister of the Babrak Karmal regime, was recently killed in a surprise attack in Kabul. The same sources reported that shots were exchanged between General Abdol Qader, the minister of defense of the mercenary Karmal regime, and Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, the communications minister of the same regime, in a dispute over party matters and political differences between the Khalq and Parcham factions. The reports added that in this exchange Watanjar was wounded while Abdul Qader was unscathed.

It is also rumored in Kabul that General Abdol Qader, the minister of defense of the regime, has been removed from office and that the reason given for his removal is that he failed to attend a major party meeting.

Bitter exchanges have taken place between Nur Ahmad Nur and Babrak Karmal, who both belong to the Parcham faction of the Communist Party. Recently the supporters of Nur Ahmad Nur have put up posters in the Kabul streets with slogans like "Death to Babrak Karmal."

IRNA: Mujahidin Kill 100 of Joint Forces

LD181059 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Mashhad, July 18, IRNA — The Afghan Muslim mujahidin fighting the Soviet-backed regime of Afghanistan in a severe clash with the Soviet and Afghan Government forces in Chahar Qal'eh area of Shindand Province early in July, killed more than one hundred of them and destroyed five tanks and one armoured personnel carrier.

In this clash five of the mujahidin were martyred and four were taken captive. The occupying Soviet forces in retaliation bombarded homes and wheat harvest of the villagers.

IRNA: President Receives Iranian Ambassador
LD181156 Tehran IRNA in English 1142 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Dhaka, July 18, IRNA — Iran's ambassador to Bangladesh Mohammad Mehdi Akhund-Zadeh Tuesday met President General Ershad of that country and presented him a message from Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

During the meeting, matters of mutual interest, Middle East situation, and the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran were discussed.

Akhund-Zadeh described Iraqi regime's deployment of chemical weapons in war fronts to General Ershad and called for the Baghdad regime's condemnation.

He added that the Islamic Republic of Iran expected Islamic countries not to be at least slower than international organisations and European communities.

The Iranian people, he noted, expected Muslim people of Bangladesh not to forget their duty vis-a-vis condemning the Iraqi regime's crime committed in its deployment of chemical weapons.

The meeting took place a few hours prior to the departure of General Ershad for Saudi Arabia to take part in the peace committee of the Islamic Conference Organisation.

Admitting that meetings of the said committee had so far failed to be fruitful, the Bangladesh president noted that his country would exert utmost efforts to reach a conclusion for solving the issue of the war through the cooperation of other members of the committee.

He added that Bangladesh had decided to hold a meeting of the peace committee in Dhaka in the near future.

Delhi Reports Gandhi Takes Over Foreign Ministry

BK191248 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Some changes in the portfolios of union cabinet were announced today. The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, becomes the new home minister. The prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, will herself hold the external affairs portfolio. The home minister, Mr P.C. Sethi, will be the new planning minister.

A press communique issued from Rashtrapatio Nilayam [president house] in Hyderabad says that planning minister, Mr S. B. Chavan, will be minister without portfolio and will assist Mrs Gandhi in looking after the External Affairs Ministry.

AFP on Takeover

BK190922 Hong Kong AFP in English 0919 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] New Delhi, July 19 (AFP) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has taken over the foreign affairs portfolio and shifted Foreign Minister P.V. Marasimha Rao to the Home Ministry, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported today.

Mrs. Gandhi will look after foreign affairs until new arrangements are made, PTI said. Prakash Chandra Sethi, the present home minister, will continue in the Cabinet as a minister without portfolio, the agency added.

There was no official confirmation of the changes.

Further Report

BK191132 Hong Kong AFP in English 1122 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Excerpt] New Delhi, July 19 (AFP) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has taken charge of the foreign affairs portfolio in a Cabinet reshuffle that moved the minister who was charged with order in Punjab to another position, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said today.

Foreign Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao will take over the Home Affairs Ministry from Prakash Chand Sethi, who will be shifted to the Planning Ministry, PTI said. Mr. Sethi had been directly responsible for overseeing law and order in the troubled state of Punjab.

Planning Minister S.B. Chavan is to remain in the Cabinet as minister without portfolio, PTI said. He also is to assist Mrs. Gandhi in foreign affairs.

More Sikhs Volunteer for Community Service

BK181631 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] More Sikh volunteers are to join the Kar Sewa [voluntary community service] undertaken by the Nihang [Sikh temple guard] chief, Baba Santa Singh, at the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar. Welcoming the Kar Sewa by Baba Santa Singh, the All India Shiromani Akali Dal, Master Tara Singh group, in a statement in New Delhi today said that the party is planning to send a jatha [group] to Amritsar shortly to take part in the Kar Sewa. The general secretary of the party, Mr Ajab Singh Diler, demanded that the management of the Golden Temple be entrusted to an impartial body. A jatha of 70 devotees from Gurdwara Nanda Sahib in Ambala District today left for Amritsar to take part in the Kar Sewa. A spokesman of the jatha said that two similar jathas will daily leave for Amritsar to take part in the program.

Meanwhile, more Budha Dal Nihangs joined Baba Santa Singh and resumed the Kar Sewa of the Akal Takht [highest seat of the Sikh religion] at the Golden Temple complex this morning. Dressed in their traditional robes, they went about removing debris.

Baba Santa Singh has said that Akal Takht chief, Giani Krpal Singh, has no authority to call for his explanation for undertaking the Kar Sewa. He told UNITED NEWS OF INDIA that he is not bound to reply to the notice served on him by Giani Kirpal Singh. He asked the high priest why they were silent witnesses to the misuse of the Golden Temple by terrorists.

The Guru Singh Sabha [Sikh organization] at Gauhati has also welcomed the Kar Sewa now in progress at the Golden Temple. In a resolution adopted at its executive meeting today, the sabha urged the Assam government to grant special leave and assistance to Sikh employees who want to participate in the Kar Sewa. The All India Federation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Backward Classes has also hailed the Kar Sewa. In a statement in New Delhi, the federation appealed to all sections of the community to participate in it.

Former senior vice president of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh Temple Management] Commitee [SGPC], Mr Ajit Singh Man, has commended Baba Santa Singh for undertaking the Kar Sewa. Talking to our correspondent at Amritsar, he appealed to the people, particularly the Sikhs, to join the program. He criticized the attitude of the Akali Dal and the SGPC leadership for creating hurdles in the way of conducting Kar Sewa.

As already reported, the curfew has been extended till 1100 tomorrow in Amritsar city as a precautionary measures. The 4-hour relaxation from 1100 in the morning passed off peacefully without any incident.

A delegation from the Durgiana temple committee, Amritsar, met Mrs Gandhi in New Delhi today and submitted a memorandum. It appreciated the army action in flushing out terrorists and restoring normalcy. The prime minister urged the delegation to work for promoting peace and communal harmony in the state.

The high-powered panel constituted by the center to revamp the Punjab administration today visited Amritsar. It held discussions with district officials.

Delhi Says Talks With PRC To Be Held 17 Sep

BK181317 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The next round of talks between India and China at the level of secretaries is to be held in Beijing from the 17th of September. The talks, which will cover the boundary question and other aspects of bilateral relations, are expected to last about a week. The Indian delegation will be led by Mr Natwar Singh, secretary in the External Affairs Ministry.

Delhi Cites Defense Minister on Tank Development

BK181701 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The defense research and development organization has achieved a breakthrough in a number of fields, including the development of advanced technology gas turbine engines for light combat aircraft. It has also completed the prototypes of the prestigious main battle tank. This was stated by the defense minister, Mr R. Venkataraman, at a meeting of the consultative committee of members of parliament attached to his ministry in New Delhi today. He said a project for the full development of the gas turbine engine has been taken up. The main battle tank developed by the defense research and development is comparable to the U.S. XM-1 and West German Leopard-2 tanks.

Mr Venkataraman paid tributes to the scientists and workers of the defense research who had also developed a lighter version of the 105-mm Indian field guns. Other notable achievements of the defense research include a new antitank nondetectable mine, armor-piercing kinetic energy projectiles, and (?retarded) action bombs of the Air Force. The members of the committee were unanimous in their appreciation of the excellent results achieved by the defense research and development organization.

Briefs

TV Transmitters Commissioned — A TV transmitter was commissioned today at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh. It will have a range of 2,000 square kilometers and will cover a population of nearly 500,000. [Excerpts] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Jul 84 BK] A TV transmitter was commissioned today at Cuddapah, Andhra Pradesh. It will have a range of 25-km and will serve a population of 3 about lakh. [Summary] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Jul 84 BK] A TV transmitter was commissioned today at Shahjehanpur, Uttar Pradesh. It will cover a population of nearly 8 lakhs. Some of the towns which will come within its range are Shahganj and Rasra. It is the 60th TV transmitter in the country. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 13 Jul 84 BK] The 61st TV transmitter in the country was commissioned today at Gaya in Bihar. It will cover 2,000 square kilometers and a population of over 11 lakhs. [Excerpt] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 14 Jul 84 BK] A TV transmitter was commissioned in Karimnagar, Andhra Pradesh, today. It will have a range of 2,000 square kilometers and will cover a population of more than 4 lakhs. [Summary] [Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 15 Jul 84 BK]

New Transport Aircraft — The first batch of three modern AN-32 transport aircraft has been added to the Indian Air Force. [Excerpt] [Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 11 Jul 84 BK]

Exports to Socialist Countries — India's exports to the socialist countries has registered a 44 percent increase to 1,781 crore rupees during 1981-82. At the same time the imports from those countries came down by 9 percent to 1,347 crores. A Reserve Bank of India bulletin says almost the entire increase in exports was absorbed by the Soviet Union. It said export of rice, coffee, tobacco, clothing and cashew kernels contributed to the rise while the reduction in imports was due to the foreign imports of crude oil and petroleum products. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Jul 84 BK]

Canadian Official Discusses Cooperation, Departs

BK181624 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that the visit of the Canadian delegation led by Montigny de Marchand,deputy minister for political affairs, has reconfirmed that Pakistan and Canada have identical views on major international issues. The spokesman said that the visit was of great help in understanding each other's perceptions on global peace and security issues and the international economic situation.

The spokesman said that on bilateral matters, the two sides expressed satisfaction over the continuing growth of economic cooperation between them. The spokesman said that Canada has decided to provide further aid to Pakistan for development of oil and gas resources. Besides this, views were also exchanged on new scopes of cooperation in developmental and industrial projects. It was also agreed that exchange of views on new avenues of this sector at the technical level will continue in the future.

Montigny de Marchand, Canadian deputy minister for political affairs, has raffirmed that his country extends full support to Pakistan's stand on the Afghanistan issue. He told a news conference in Islamabad that Canadian assistance to Pakistan for Afghan refugees should be continued and, if possible, should be increased.

Referring to Pakistan's efforts to expand cooperation with South Asian countries, particularly with India, De Marchand said he was highly impressed by the prudence and insight displayed by Pakistan in bringing the regional countries closer to each other.

He said that he and Federal Planning Minister Dr Mahbubul Haq reviewed the economic cooperation between the two countries this morning. He said the two countries will increase cooperation in joint ventures and that Canada will assist in Pakistan's efforts for economic cooperation.

After a brief stay in Lahore, the Candian deputy minister left for Nepal this afternoon. In Lahore, he visited the historical Badshahi Mosque.

Niaz Naik To Visit USSR, Hungary, Poland, GDR

BK181636 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik, along with a 3-member delegation, will visit the Soviet Union, Hungary, Poland, and the GDR. His 10-day official visit, which will start on 24 July, is a part of regular consultations with these countries held from time to time.

A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that exchange of views with the Soviet Union on the UN General Assembly agenda is a regular process and these exchanges are held alternately in Moscow and Islamabad. A Soviet delegation came to Islamabad in this regard last August.

Pakistan and the Soviet Union have good bilateral relations in all fields. Their relations continue to grow, particularly in the economic, trade, and cultural sectors. Pakistan's relations with the other countries which the foreign secretary will visit are similarly based on friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation.

SRI LANKA

AFP: State of Emergency Extended 'Another 30 Days'

BK181308 Hong Kong AFP in English 1304 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] New Delhi, July 18 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan Government today announced it was extending by another 30 days the state of emergency currently in force across the neighboring Indian Ocean island, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported from Colombo.

This is the fifth such extension of emergency regulations since ethnic violence erupted on July 25 last year, claiming nearly 400 lives, mostly members of the Tamil minority.

PTI said the government action was prompted by fears of fresh trouble on the first anniversary of last July's communal violence.

Reports reaching Colombo spoke of renewed tension in parts of Sri Lanka, including the Tamil-dominated northern province of Jaffna, PTI added.

Three policemen were wounded in a bomb attack yesterday in Jaffna, the Indian news agency said.

Ethnic Tamil separatists are seeking the establishment of an independent state in Sri Lanka's north and northeast.

Delhi Reports Extension

BK181404 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the nationwide emergency was today extended for another month. This is the fifth extension since the ethnic violence began in the country in July last year. The all-party round table for ethnic peace has scheduled its resumed sitting for the 23d of this month. Tamil United Liberation Front has asked the president, Mr Junius Jayewardene, for a week's postponement.

Musavi Requests Majlis Vote of Confidence

LD190913 Tehran IRNA in English 0905 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 19, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi in a letter to Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here today requested a vote of confidence from the Majlis for his government.

The prime minister has made the request in accordance with the provisions of the articles 136 and 87 of the Constitutional law of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Under the provisions of these articles in case half the number of the ministers change, or on major issues in dispute, the government shall request vote of confidence from the Majlis.

In his letter the prime minister said that under present conditions a government could tackle with various issues from a position of strength which enjoyed full support of the Majlis.

Letter to Speaker

LD191138 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1040 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text of letter from Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi to Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani]

[Text] In his exalted name: Honorable Speaker of the Majlis, greetings.

I wish to ask the Majlis for a vote of confidence, for the following reasons: According to the guidelines of his great eminence, the imam of the nation, may his exalted shadow long continue, the Majlis is at the head of all affairs. It is natural to expect that the deputies in the second session of this holy institution would like to have a government which is to their liking. Under the critical conditions of the present time, only a government that is confident of the support of the Majlis will be able to have a creative and strong stance toward the various complex political, social, and cultural problems of the country and the world. According to principle 136 of the Constitution, if half of the members of the Cabinet were changed the government would ask the Majlis for a vote of confidence. The serving government is, at the moment, at the threshold of this legal injunction, although still a full half of the members of the Cabinet have not been changed. In view of principle 87 of the Constitution which allows the government to ask the Majlis for a vote of confidence when faced with important and controversial issues, under the present conditions of the Islamic Revolution and the start of a new session of the Majlis, the government's certainty of the support of the Majlis could be one of these instances.

[Signed] Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister,

19 July 1984

Introduction of New Ministers

LD191144 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1043 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Our correspondent has sent us a report from today's open session of the Majlis:

In today's session of the Majlis, another letter from the prime minister was read out, presenting Messrs Hasan Habibi, (Serajoddin)Kazeruni, and Mohammad Mohammadi Reyshahri to be in charge of the Ministries of Justice, Housing, and Intelligence.

Warning to Iraq

LD181756 Tehran IRNA in English 1742 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 18, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said here today that Iran would not tolerate any more deployment of chemical weapons by the Iraqi Government, and that in the event Iraq should renew such attacks Iran would exploit every possible means to deal a counter blow upon the Iraqi forces, "in keeping with the principles of our faith."

Musavi, who was talking to reporters at the end of a Cabinet session here elsewhere referred to the seizure of more than one thousand kilograms of heroin from drug traffickers in Iran this week and said that in its session the Cabinet had greatly commended the work of Gendarmerie officers of the country in the operations which led to the seizure of the narcotics.

Elsewhere in the interview he said that the Cabinet had also reviewed issues relevant to the acquisition of any necessary vote of confidence from the Majlis in any future time. He reminded that the composition of his Cabinet has changed since its formation and that in the event one more Cabinet minister should resign, then the government will have to obtain a vote of confidence from the Majlis (Islamic consultative assembly) in keeping with Articles 87 and 136 of the Constitution. Musavi added that in the event such vote from the Majlis be needed, then it will provide an opportunity for the government to get Majlis review the operations of the present government and evaluate its accomplishments. [sentence as received]

Asked elsewhere about the position of the Islamic Government towards the use of chemical bombs, and how the Iranian Government interpreted Baghdad's ignoring of a call by the U.N secretary general for a reciprocal restraint by Iran and Iraq in deploying chemical weapons, he said to deploy chemical weapons against an enemy is as heinous a crime as that of dropping bombs at people in the civilian areas. He added that the Islamic Republic had done everything to open the eyes of the world people to the crimes committed here by the Iraqi Government, but that Iran would not remain silent before such crimes in the future.

Final Session of Assembly of Experts Held

LD181437 Tehran IRNA in English 1344 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 18, IRNA — The sixth and final annual session of the Assembly of Experts was held here this morning presided over by Ayatollah 'Ali Meshkimi.

During the session, following the pre-agenda speeches of a number of members, members of several commissions including those of the auditing, budget and financial affairs were elected.

Furthermore discussions were held on several articles of the internal regulations and the suggestions were referred to the secretariat board of the Assembly.

Today's session concluded the annual meeting of the Assembly, which was formed last year.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani: 'Real' War If Oil Exports Cut

LD181834 Tehran IRNA in English 1827 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 18, IRNA — The Islamic Republic's real war would begin when its oil exports are forcefully cut, Majlis Speaker 'Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in a speech to the country's top leaders Tuesday.

"When that day comes, we too will not stay in Tehran and will go to the fronts. We will tell the people that that day is when we are really at war," Hashemi-Rafsanjani said.

The Majlis speaker and deputy chairman of the Assembly of Experts was addressing members of the Assembly, the Supreme Judicial Council and the Central Council of the Combatant Ulema Society of Tehran at a dinner ceremony held here by President 'Ali Khamene'i.

"This war had been planned very carefully. Their (the Islamic Republic's enemies) aim was to at least make us busy amongst ourselves if they could not destroy us.

"But fortunately the opposite took place. War against the great power of Islam turned against them. They thought that if they cut our country's oil, our nation would have nothing left to live off.

"But from long ago, we had planned to start our real war when we reached this stage," he said.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed that as Muslims, the Islamic Republic could not forget the Zionist regime and Afghanistan issues.

He said: "Our revolution has an aggressive attitude towards the arrogance of the East and West because of their blasphemy and their aggression and usurpation against the rights of the deprived nations.

"As a spokesman of Islam we cannot change our aggressive attitude towards them and this decisive and glorious movement (Islamic Revolution) could not disregard billions of deprived human beings in the world."

Lebanon Restores Diplomatic Relations

LD181717 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] According to a dispatch from the Beirut correspondent of the Central News Unit an official statement issued in Beirut today announced that Lebanon has restored diplomatic relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, which were unilaterally severed 9 months ago. According to this report Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid karami has also confirmed this decision of the Lebanese Government.

It should be noted that, following the signing of the 17 May agreement between the Lebanese Government and the regime occupying Jerusalem, diplomatic relations between Iran and Lebanon deteriorated, and the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly criticized that shameful act, expressing its clear opposition to it. Now that as a result of the legitimate struggles of the Lebanese Muslim people that agreement has been canceled, the Islamic Republic of Iran regards this action as a positive step toward liberation from the domination of Zionism and imperialism.

Foreign Ministry Praises Decision

LD181929 Tehran IRNA in English 1918 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran July 18 IRNA — A Foreign Ministry spokesman today described the decision of the Lebanese Government to resume diplomatic ties with the Islamic Republic "as a positive step towards further relations between the two Muslim countries in countering the Zionist regime."

He said Lebanon had severed relations with the Islamic Republic some nine months ago, in the wake of an agreement made in response to pressures exerted on the former Lebanese Government by the U.S. and the Zionist regime. He added the abrogation of the agreement was in fact a positive move for furthering the aspirations of the Lebanese people against the policies of the regime occupying Al-Quds and its Western supporters.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,792

LD181752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its Communique No 1,792 has announced:

In the past 24 hours exchanges of fire continued in the northwestern operational zone. By opening fire on the positions, fortifications, and moving columns of the enemy, the powerful forces of Islam killed a number of Iraqi servicemen and destroyed one mortar launcher, several slit trenches and foxholes and one enemy bridge.

In the western operational zone our patrol groups carried out their reconnaissance operations and missions. Furthermore the combative units of Islam opened fire on the enemy slit trenches and inflicted effective losses and casualties on them.

In the southern operational zone our combat units brought the enemy fortifications under fire and pounded part of the defense positions of the Saddamist forces.

In an area to the west of the Arvand Rud, 2 excavators and 12 light and heavy weapon trenches of the enemy were destroyed by the fire of the heroes of Islam.

[The Tehran IRNA report in English at 1651 GMT on 18 July on the Joint Staff Communique No 1,792 is substantially the same as the Tehran Persian version except for the addition of the following paragraph: Nine houses and shops and one school were damaged as Abadan's residential quarters came under the long-range heavy fire of the enemy forces during the preceding 24 hours, concluded the Joint Staff Command Communique.]

Iraqi Accusation of Shelling Districts Denied
LD181628 Tehran IRNA in English 1603 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, july 18, IRNA — a spokesman for the Supreme Defence Council categorically denied claims of the Iraqi regime alleging Iran as having shelled districts of Tawilah and Shandri, eastern Iraq.

Speaking to IRNA today the spokesman denied the Iraqi claims in its military Communiques No 1,528 and 1,529 which stated that last Monday and Tuesday Iran had shelled the two districts of Tawilah and Shandri.

Once in while, he added, the Iraqi regime in a bid to pave the way for resumption of its attacks against Iranian civilian areas spreads such allegations through dissimination of such lies by news imperialism, continues its savage actions. [sentence as received]

The spokesman further stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran continued to prove unreliablity of Iraqi commitments to the world public opinion. On the other hand, people of the world were witnessing Iran's patience towards these Iraqi violations and people of the world could see for themselves that Iran has not taken a retaliatory action towards these aggressions, he added.

At the end the spokesman added that Iran has regularly informed the United Nations of the Iraqi attacks against the Iranian civilian areas and Iraq's failure to stand by its promises. He said Iran was awaiting a response and reaction from the organisation so as to assure the world of its credibility.

Departure of Young Men for Fronts Continues
GF190819 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] The departure of the revolutionary young men of our country to the fronts of the imposed war to fight the elements of world oppression and the Zionist enemy continues. According to reports received during the past few days, a large number of groups of combatants of the mobilization forces and members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps from the provinces of Bushehr, Fars, Hormuzgan, and Kuh-e Kiluyeh va (Bayer) Ahmad and from the cities of Gach Saran, [name indistinct], and Sabzevar left for the fronts of light over darkness.

President Receives SRV Envoy, Hails Relations
LD191322 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Mr Nguyen Quang Tao, Vietnam's accredited ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning met Mr Khamene'i, the president, to submit his credentials. In this meeting, the Vietnamese envoy, while expressing the support of his government for the Iranian Government and people in achieving the goals of the Islamic Revolution and safeguarding its independence, and emphasizing the need to strengthen and expand relations between the two countries, voiced his hope that friendship and cooperation between the Iranian and Vietnamese people would continue.

Then Mr Khamene'i, the president, referred to the long record of the struggles of the Vietnamese people against France and America. He said: Our awareness of the struggles of your people has given rise to a sense of admiration which we have often felt toward the steadfastness and self-sacrifice of your nation. This is why ever since the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran we have emphasized the need for sincere cooperation between the Iranian and Vietnamese nations. The reason why even under a climate of suppression before the revolution we could understand the feeling of your nation, was that, like the Vietnamese nation, our nation was also living under the oppression of the same people who had dominated Vietnam. We succeeded in getting rid of this heavy and evil shadow.

Emphasizing the fact that certainly the Iranian and Vietnamese nations needed each others' experiences during the period of their struggles and after the victory of their revolutions, the president said: This requires mutual and sincere relations between the two countries. Continuing our struggles, we have started a new struggle against America after the revolution, and this is a struggle which all the liberated nations are forced to wage after achieving liberation. It is natural that the enemy, continuing its former oppressions and cruelty, and in order to take revenge for the victory the revolution has achieved despite its wishes , will also make strong moves. Today we are witnessing these strong moves from tyrannical powers, especially America, not only against our own nation, but aginst all the nations who are interested in independence and freedom throughout the world.

Referring to the fact that in order to deliver blows at our revolution and in order to impose a long war against us, America carried out certain moves through its mercenary agents, Mr Khamene'i said: Today, the regime ruling Iraq is a symbol of the desire of big powers to carry out aggression against countries fighting for freedom and independence. We feel that the truly struggling nations and the nations which are under the oppression and threat of the superpowers should have more sincere relations

with one another and should stress their common features. This unity of method and direction should be manifested in correct and rational relations between various nations.

In conclusion the president expressed his wish for the expansion of political and economic relations between the two countries, and extended his best wishes for the success of Vietnam's accredited ambassador in Iran in his new mission.

Velayati Sends Message to SFRY Counterpart

LD1[illegible] Tehran IRNA in English 0800 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Belgrade, July 19 IRNA — Iranian Ambassador to Yugoslavia Mahmud Ahmadzadeh-Heravi in a meeting with Yugoslavian Foreign Minister Raif Dizdarevic Wednesday, submitted him a written message from his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

The message, while studying bilateral ties, reminded of deployment of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime, and its non-observance of the United Nations notifications.

The message also described Iran's stance concerning the Persian Gulf situation, particularly attacks on the ships.

During the meeting the Yugoslav foreign minister condemned deployment of chemical weapons and added that the U.N. had taken positive measures to halt bombardment of residential areas.

Meanwhile, he offered a visit of high-ranking officials of Iranian Foreign Ministry to his country.

Ambassador to Turkey on Conditions To End War

TA181637 Ankara ANATOLIA in French 1620 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Ankara, 18 Jul (AA) — Mohammad Ganji, the Iranian ambassador to Ankara, has said that his country would soften its stand on ending the war with Iraq if the ICO Good Offices Committee admits that Iraq is to blame for the war. If such a distinction is not made between the two countries, Ganji said at a news conference held at the Iranian Embassy in Ankara, all initiatives to end the war would fail. If the Committee explains to the world that Iraq is the aggressor, then Iran would present its conditions for peace, he added.

In response to a question on an attack by Armenian terrorists on the Turkish Embassy in Iran, the ambassador said that his country did not tolerate terrorism. We are calling for understanding from the Turkish authorities, he said. Ganji concluded by saying that the culprits are in jail and their trial is continuing.

Envoy, PRC Minister Discuss Railway Project

GF180926 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 5 Jul 84

[Text] The Islamic Republic's ambassador to China met Mr Chen Puru, the railway minister of the People's Republic of China, and they discussed the Bafq-Bandar 'Abbas railway project. During this meeting, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to China explained in detail the views of our country in carrying out this project, and asked him to keep in mind the time required to complete this project. The PRC railway minister, while welcoming this opportunity to discuss the project, said: The Chinese authorities are very interested in this project and want to cooperate with the Iranian authorities in it and hope there will be greater cooperation in the future. He also added: A preliminary study has been conducted, and a delegation will leave for Iran to begin this project.

It should be recalled our government had asked for bids in respect to some phases of the Bafq-Bandar 'Abbas railway project and China won the bid in respect to one phase of the project.

AL-WATAN on Syrian, Iranian, Libyan Meeting

GF181212 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 17 Jul 84 p 1

[Jabbar Sattar report]

[Text] Well-informed Arab sources have revealed to *AL-WATAN* the nature of the meetings held by the foreign ministers of Syria, Libya, and Iran in the Syrian capital recently. The sources said that Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar', Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki made specific proposals that may pave the way for an Arab-Iranian dialogue to end the Iraqi-Iranian war.

The sources affirmed that during the third meeting, At-Turayki proposed a comprehensive plan for ending the war be prepared and presented to the Arab summit Tripoli has called for and to Tehran. They said At-Turayki's proposal is based on the implementation of the Algiers 1975 agreement and on the establishment of an Islamic fund to reconstruct the war-stricken areas in the two countries.

Our sources said that the Libyan envoys who visited a number of the Arab capitals including Riyadh conveyed these proposals before they were presented to the Iranian foreign minister. On the other hand, our sources said Damascus is still continuing mediation efforts between Tehran and Riyadh. They said these efforts led to a visit by the Iranian Foreign Ministry under secretary to the Saudi capital recently. They added Syria insists on conducting this mediation secretly.

It should be recalled Velayati met in Damascus with a number of the secretaries general of some Palestinian factions and leaders of the Lebanese National Movement. During the meeting, those Palestinians and Lebanese denounced the Iranian position toward the war and called on Iran to respond to the mediation efforts being exerted to end the fighting between the two Muslim countries.

Our sources predict the coming days will witness an Arab and Iranian diplomatic move to break the passivity caused in the past stage as a result of the conditions set by Iran to open a dialogue with Iraq or with the other Arab countries.

Industrial Experts Meet; Production Figures Given

LD191340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Our correspondent reports that Mohammad Taqi Banki, the minister of state in charge of plan and budget organizations, announced to a meeting of the country's industrial experts, gathered to appraise the aims of the industrial sector in the economic system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, that the overall index of the country's industrial production in 1982-83 shows an increase of over 1[illegible] percent compared to 1981-82. The added value of the industrial sector has risen by more that 22 percent in that period. Also, loans totalling 98 billion rials were granted to big industries during 1982-83.

He pointed out that production of non-perishable goods rose 44 percent in 1982-83, compared to 1981-82 and production of perishable, consumer goods rose by 12.2 percent in the same period.

Referring to the need to plan, prepare, and adopt set policies in connection with industry, he gave a detailed description of various related issues, namely, industrial conditions, investments, employment, loans, and geographic distribution of industries throughout the country. Regarding geographic distribution, he said: 45 percent of industrial production volume and added value, 40 percent of industrial experts, 25 percent of new investments, and 35 percent of new loans are concentrated in Tehran. It is up to the country's industrial experts to present an appropriate plan to improve this situation.

Radio, Television Director Departs for Malta

GF161034 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Jul 84

[Text] Mohammad Hashemi, the executive director of radio and television of the Islamic Republic of Iran, left Tehran yesterday, leading an Iranian delegation to Malta at the invitation of Malta's foreign minister. This visit is designed to continue the talks between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Malta on developing the economic and the cultural relations, which began in Tehran 2 months ago, and [words indistinct] during the visit of the Maltese foreign minister to Iran.

Heashemi will convey a message from Foreign Minister Velayati to his Maltese counterpart.

Kurdish Peshmarga Guerrillas Attack Guards

GF171704 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] According to our correspondent in Kordestan members of the (Khabbas) organization of Kurdish Peshmarga guerrillas attacked and destroyed a newly-built camp of the Revolution Guards 7-km west of Baneh. According to the report the Kurdish Peshmarga planned this operation to mark the 40th day of the martyrdom of Mollah 'Ali Rasidi, one of the fighters in this area. They hit the Revolution Guards camp west of Baneh and killed all but eight of the Revolution Guards staying at the camp.

In this attack, the Kurdish Peshmarga succeeded in occupying the Revolution Guards camp. One young Peshmarga fighter, (Adel Khevand), was martyred during the fighting between the Revolution Guards and the Peshmarga. The Kurdish Peshmarga fighters of (Khabbas) later set fire to the camp installations and returned to their camps along with the eight persons they had captured and a quantity of arms and materiel they had acquired as booty.

AL-QABAS: Iranian Army Recruits Rebel

GF182016 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 17 Jul 84 pp 1, 17

[Excerpts] Reports which have reached *AL-QABAS* from London said that at the beginning of the first week in July, a big rebellion took place among the ranks of the Iranian army troops who are stationed on the Iraqi front.

The reports noted that the rebellion began with the recruits in the Revolution Guards Corps near Darsiyeh. Those recruits had volunteered for 3-month service only, but Khomeyni did not permit them to return home. The rebellion ended after the leaders of the Revolution Guards Corps and mullahs intervened and forced the recruits to drop their weapons. However, the restiveness in their ranks did not end.

Vacations for the army troops and the Revolution Guards have been cancelled since 23 March because of the awaited big offensive.

The reports indicated that the Iranian soldiers are still suffering from the burning summer heat, lack of water, and from sickness, although tons of watermelons and boxes of antithirst tablets have been shipped to them during the past 2 weeks.

Recently, envoys from the army were sent to meet with groups that are in exile in London, Paris, Madrid, New York, and Los Angeles, offering them material rewards and amnesty for the former officers who were in the service of the shah, if they would return to the country to lead the final and decisive attack on Iraq.

Free Voice of Iran on Kurdish Operations

GF141658 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 14 Jul 84

[Text] The Rastgari Corps of the Peshmarga on 9 July attacked a group of Khomeyni Guards and killed several of them. In the clash, which occurred between the Peshmarga and Khomeyni guards and lasted for about 3 hours in the village of (Neyseh), the head of the mobilized corps, Naser (Arghuai), and a number of Guards were killed.

Another branch of the Rastgari Corps went to a village and attacked the Guards headquarters. In the attack, the Kurdish Peshmarga killed three of Guards and wounded several others.

Radio Iran on Disobedience Among Guards Members

GF161555 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Jul 84

[Text] Disobedience in the commands of the mullahs has seeped into the ranks of the Guards after soaking the Armed Forces. According to a report by the London daily *AL-'ARAB*, quoting informed press sources in London, disobedience has entered the ranks of Guards and the war fronts are now the scene of severe disagreements.

According to *AL-'ARAB*, one of the reasons for this disobedience is the cancellation of all leaves for Guards which was done on Khomeyni's orders some 4 months ago. The shortage of water and the increase in (?the variety of diseases) at the fronts, which stems from the insufferable heat of the border region, has further fanned the anger of the Guards. *AL-'ARAB* added that Khomeyni's opposition to the 12-page letter written to him by Montazeri, which suggested an end to the war and peace negotiations with Iraq on the basis of the Algerian accord — this letter was approved by 'Ali Khamene'i, who is Khomeyni's president — has created strong feelings at the fronts. Ayatollahs Mar'ashi-Najafi, Mohammad Reza Golpayegani, and Hoseyn Shirazi have also sent messages to Khomeyni asking him how long the carnage must go on.

Following these messages, the residences of these three sources of emulation have been put under surveillance on Khomeyni's order. They have been banned from having any visitors. Musavi-Kho'iniha has been appointed by Khomeyni as the man to control all visitors to the homes of these sources of emulation.

Tehran Cites Iraqi Revolutionary Operations

GF161855 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 16 Jul 84

[Text] In two separate operations, Muslim Iraqi revolutionaries have directed their heavy and light weapons fire against the mobile and fixed positions of the forces of the Zionist Ba'thist regime ruling in Iraq in the areas of Dahuk and Chuwarta in northern Iraq. They killed a group of Saddam's forces and captured a quantity of arms.

Another report from Iraq indicates that the Muslim Iraqi revolutionaries launched a stunning attack against Saddam's army near the city of As-Sulaymaniyah and killed or wounded 10 troops.